

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE ALAMANCE COUNTY BOARD
OF COMMISSIONERS FOR ALAMANCE COUNTY**

**March 17, 2025, 6:30 PM
Commissioners' Meeting Room
124 West Elm Street
Graham, NC 27253**

Board Members Present: Chairman John Paisley Jr
Vice-Chair Steve Carter
Commissioner Pamela Thompson
Commissioner Ed Priola
Commissioner Kelly Allen

CALL TO ORDER - CHAIRMAN PAISLEY

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - COMMISSIONER PRIOLA

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chairman Paisley, seconded by Commissioner Priola, moved to remove item 6.d. DSS In-Home Aide Services for Adult Services Contract from the consent agenda to the regular agenda for further discussion. That motion carried.

Moved by: Commissioner Allen

Seconded by: Vice-Chair Carter

APPROVED AS AMENDED

RECOGNITION OF THE 2024 EAGLE SCOUTS

Chairman Paisley and the Board of Commissioners recognized the 24 scouts awarded their Eagle Scout rank in 2024.

In attendance to receive their Certificate of Commendation from the Board of Commissioners were Royce Allegretto, Troop 6009; Chase Armstrong, Troop 4064; Cheyanne Barr, Troop 6036; Adam Couturier, Troop 4065; John Dooley, Troop 4017; Isaac Horner, Troop 4065; Will Solari, Troop 4017; and Sam Turner, Troop 4017.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Sandra McCollum, a resident of Green Level, spoke about the Public Safety Training Center and asked the Board to continue to support Sheriff Johnson. She mentioned that Green Level had a radius of four miles surrounded by ten trailer parks. Ms. McCollum said the community was aging, and they wanted to feel safe. She hoped the Public Safety Training Center would be made a reality.

Henry Vines, a Snow Camp resident, read some language he researched on holiday pay through the UNC School of Government. He read that neither federal nor state required local governments or employers to pay employees for holiday or premium pay when an employee must work on a regular scheduled day. Mr. Vines said he would like to see employees paid double time when they work on holidays and eliminate the banked time. He said banked time caused department problems when the employee requested a day off. He recommended changing the policy, correcting any issues, and avoiding a band-aid fix.

CONSENT AGENDA

APPOINTMENTS/ REAPPOINTMENTS

Board of Health – Deanna J. Tickle & Ariam Diaz-Mathusek

Budget Amendment 9

NCDMVA Grant Application Program- Veteran Services

Secondary Road Addition Resolution – Poplar Wells Subdivision

Advertisement of Delinquent 2024 Taxes

TAX REFUNDS

Tax Refunds, Releases, and Extensions Feb 2025

Approval of tax refunds and releases; a copy of the tax refunds are set forth hereafter.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Minutes of February 3, 2025

Closed Session Minutes of January 27, 2025

Closed Session Minutes of February 17, 2025

Closed Session Minutes of March 3, 2025

PRESENTATIONS/OTHER BUSINESS

DSS – In-Home Aide Services for Adult Services Contract

Candice Gobble, Director of Social Services, explained the statute required social services to react to reports of abuse, neglect, or exploitation of elderly, disabled, or incompetent adults. She said this contract stemmed from those situations. She reported that in-home aide was used when no one else could provide those protective services. Ms.Gobble mentioned that the in-home aide was utilized as a last resort, and they had to have a contract in place.

Commissioner Priola asked whether that contract was a renewal. Ms.Gobble said it was an addendum to an established contract that was in place at the beginning of the fiscal year. She continued with the six individuals that her agency already has they have met and exceeded that amount or will potentially exceed that amount. Ms.Gobble explained that her request was over the allotted amount she could sign off on. Commissioner Priola asked for the increased payment amount. Ms.Gobble said it was \$200,000, just in case they had to use that amount; it may not be necessary.

Chairman Paisley confirmed with County Attorney Stevens that this was required by law and the county did not have a choice. County Attorney Stevens confirmed the county did not have a choice and clarified this was a not-to-exceed contract. He said that just because the contract was for \$200,000, it did not mean the county would spend \$200,000. He noted that was the cap space amount.

Ms.Gobble explained that they expected to receive some return dollars for the payments paid out for three of the six individuals they had placed into in-home aide care.

Commissioner Thompson invited Ms. Gobble to present information at one of the Senior Services Committee meetings.

Commissioner Allen commented that it was a mandate and they had to look after the elderly.

Moved by: Vice-Chair Carter

Seconded by: Commissioner Allen

APPROVED

Board of Health Appointment - Tony LoGiudice, Public Health Director

Tony LoGiudice, Public Health director presented 3 applicants for consideration to fill an unexpired term on the Board of Health. Applications had been received from Paul Brewer, Caitlin McArthur, and Andrew Wyatt-Younger.

Commissioner Allen reported that all three applicants were qualified. She noted that Ms. McArthur had actually worked for the Guilford County Health Department and had experience working in WIC and with expecting mothers.

Moved by: Commissioner Allen

Seconded by: Vice-Chair Carter

Appointment of Caitlin McArthur to the Board of Health as representative of the general public to fill an unexpired term.

APPROVED UNANIMOUS

Resolution Regarding ABSS Local Funding - County Attorney Stevens

County Attorney Stevens presented a resolution the Board had requested for consideration. He reviewed the school system had to post to its website about how they spent state funding annually. He said the draft resolution requested that the school system post that same data for local fund spending.

Moved by: Chairman Paisley

Seconded by: Vice-Chair Carter

APPROVED UNANIMOUS

MOU and Resolutions for Security at the Behavioral Health Center - County Attorney Stevens

County Attorney Stevens presented a memorandum of understanding (MOU) and a resolution authorizing Sheriff Johnson to enter into an agreement with other law enforcement agencies to recruit their folks to work off-duty at the behavioral health center. He noted that RHA would fund this staffing through an employment agency.

Chairman Paisley pointed out that neither the City of Burlington nor the Town of Elon were a part of that agreement. He thought the City of Burlington should be required to provide security since the behavioral health center was inside the city.

County Attorney Stevens clarified that the agreement had to be ratified by the governing bodies of each entity. He said it did not necessarily mean the agencies contributed financially to the security operations. He said it meant they allowed their off-duty officers to participate and be paid directly by RHA.

Commissioner Thompson suggested asking those elected officials why they were not participating. She said they had to ensure the people in the center were cared for properly.

Vice-Chair Carter spoke that it was more the city councils that did not want to be involved rather than the law enforcement agencies. He said the city councils needed to step up and lead by supporting this for Alamance County. He noted that Burlington and Graham were the largest communities in the county.

Moved by: Vice-Chair Carter

Seconded by: Commissioner Allen

APPROVED UNANIMOUS

Holiday Pay Policy - County Manager York & County Attorney Stevens

After speaking with County Attorney Stevens, Chairman Paisley suggested that this item be tabled until the next meeting. He understood that other Commissioners had suggested modifications and concerns. He said this would provide County Attorney Stevens time to modify the draft.

*Tabled until the April 7, 2025 meeting.

Moved by: Chairman Paisley

Seconded by: Vice-Chair Carter

*Tabled until the April 7, 2025 meeting.

TABLED

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

County Manager York spoke about her and County Attorney Stevens efforts to clean up the previous holiday pay policy that had been put in place by the previous human resources director. She said they had not been directed to come up with anything new but were simply cleaning up and reverting back to what was approved in March 2024. County Manager York indicated that the Board sounded like it might want to do something different. She emphasized that they currently do not have a budget to pay over regular time. She said an analysis was needed to determine where the money would come from. County Manager York clarified that there was never an ask from the Board for additional funding to cover the overpayment of holiday pay. She explained they intended to use lapse salaries from the departments that had incurred the overpayment.

County Manager York mentioned that a report from the Oversight Committee had been distributed at each of their seats.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Thompson said a former commissioner had asked some questions about REI and confirmed that the county had paid REI \$295,759 for the assessment of the school buildings and county building. She gave a big shout-out to the girls' basketball teams at Southeast High School and Western High School for winning their divisions' state high school championships. Commissioner Thompson mentioned that she had talked to a group of young people at Williams High School.

Commissioner Allen said she would speak to a civics class the following week. She mentioned that she sat in on the Planning Board meeting, and everyone was complimentary of the Board's last appointment.

Vice-Chair Carter said he would speak at Williams High School the following day.

Chairman Paisley said both the Board of Education and the Board of Commission were doing much better. He asked the other cities to help with the behavioral health center because it would benefit everyone by working together.

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

At 7:50 PM, County Attorney Stevens asked the Board to move into closed session pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11(a)(3), to consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body. The attorney advised the Board on ongoing legal matters, including the *Beers et al. v. Johnson* (N.C. Middle District 23CV367) matter.

Commissioner Allen, seconded by Vice-Chair Carter, moved to go into closed session. The motion carried unanimously.

At 8:28 PM, Vice-Chair Carter, seconded by Commissioner Allen, moved to reconvene in open session. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Allen, seconded by Vice-Chair Carter, moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried.

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

John Paisley, Jr., Chairman

Alamance County Board of Commissioners

Tory M. Frink, Clerk to the Board